

ONE CITY, ONE PLAN PLANNING TODAY FOR HARTFORD'S TOMORROW

---NEWS AND COMMUNITY RELEASE---

(November 12, 2009)--- A series of community conversations are getting underway that will shape how the City of Hartford will look in the year 2020. Mayor Eddie A. Perez, COO and Development Director David Panagore and a host of city, community, and business leaders helped kick-off "One City, One Plan: POCD 2020" today in City Council Chambers.

POCD stands for Hartford's Plan of Conservation and Development. POCD 2020 guides public and private development and policy decisions over the next 10 years. It serves as a comprehensive source for information about all of Hartford's planning and growth efforts.

Mayor Perez says, "This is time for 20/20 foresight. We need community conversations to make sure that the road map to the year 2020 is clear. We want diverse suggestions to establish this long-term vision and short and prioritize the short-term action plan. Hartford needs to be positioned for growth when the economy comes back."

Also speaking on behalf of various stakeholders in this process were Council President Calixto Torres, Oz Griebel, President and CEO of the MetroHartford Alliance, Sandra Bobowski, Chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission, and Denise Best, a resident and Chair of the Upper Albany Main Street Board of Directors.

To better engage the community in this planning process, the following meetings have been set up:

- 1. What is a Plan of Conservation and Development? Thursday, November 12th 6-7:30 p.m., Hartford Public Library, 500 Main Street
- 2. Promote Livable and sustainable Neighborhoods: Saturday, November 14th 9-11:30 a.m., YMCA, 444 Albany Avenue
- 3. Protect the City's Natural and Built Environment: Monday, November 16th 6-8:30 p.m., Boathouse, Riverside Park Road
- 4. Enhance Mobility: Transit, Pedestrian and Bike Systems City-Wide: Saturday, November 21st 9-11:30 a.m., Union Station, 1 Union Place
- 5. Advance Downtown as Region's Center of Commerce, Culture, and City Living: Tuesday, December 1st 6-8:30 p.m., Lincoln Culinary Institute, 85 Sigourney Street
- 6. Promote and Encourage the Integration of Sustainable Practices: Tuesday, December 8th 6-8:30 p.m., CT Science Center, 250 Columbus Boulevard

Neighborhood-based listening sessions will follow in early 2010.

Mayor Perez says, "We hear about so many plans and promises about tomorrow. This is the comprehensive solution for the most viable next steps for our great city and the more input we have from residents and the community as a whole, the more successful Hartford's One City, One Plan will be."